

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HUD-02 IO-13 OIC-02 EURE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PRS-01 SS-15 NSC-05

NSCE-00 EB-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 ABF-01 FSE-00 OES-06

SSO-00 /073 W

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O R 201329Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7767

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

UNCLAS MOSCOW 13198

DEPT PASS HUD FOR RASSIAS

FOR EUR/SOV

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, OCON, UR, US, ECE

SUBJ: ECE-SPONSORED STUDY TOUR IN USSR (SEPT 12-22, 1976):

PARTICIAPTION OF HUD UNDER SECRETRAY RHINELANDER

REF: STATE 202809; STATE 206248

1. EMBASSY AUG 16 SENT TO YU. A. PLOTNIKOV, DEPUTY CHIEF, FOREIGN RELEATIONS DEPARTMENT, GOSGRAZHDANSTROY, LETTER CONVEYING REQUESTS AND INFORMATION PROVIDED PER STATE 202809.

2. PLOTNIKOV WAS NOT AVAILABLE TO EMBASSY TO DISCUSS ECE STUDY TOUR ARRANGEMENTS UNTIL AUG 19. ADDITIONAL RESPONSES TO CERTAIN QUESTIONS WERE PROVIDED AUG 20 BY V.NOVIKOV OF FOREIGN RELATIONS DEPARTMENT, GOSGRAZHDANSTROY.

3. RE STUDY TOUR PARTICIPATION -- PLOTNIKOV ADVISED THAT USDEL MAY NUMBER MAXIMUM OF SIX PARTICPANTS.

4. RE STUDY TOUR REGISTRATION -- PLOTNIKOV EXPRESSED APPRECIATION
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FOR CONFIRMATION THAT UNDER SECRETARY RHINELANDER AND RASSIAS OF

HUD WILL ATTEND STUDY TOUR. HE ASKED THAT OFFICIAL REGISTRATION FORMS BE FORWARDED ASAP, AS OTHER DELEGATIONS HAVE ALREADY COMPLETED REGISTRATION. ANY MEMBERS OF USDEL TO GENEVA MEETING WHO WILL PARTICIPATE IN STUDY TOUR MAY SUBMIT REGISTRATIONS FORMS IN GENEVA. EMBASSY SUGGESTS THAT, IN ADDITION TO SENDING REGISTRATION FORMS BY AIR MAIL DIRECT TO PLOTNIKOV AS PLANNED, HUD MAY WISH TO SEND COPIES TO EMBASSY VIA AIR POUCH TO ENSURE PROMPT RECEIPT BY GOSGRAZHDANSTROY.

5. RE DEPARTURE DATE -- SOVIET HOSTS PREFER THAT STUDY TOUR PARTICIPANTS DEPART USSR ON SEPT 23, ALTHOUGH DEPARTURE EVENING OF SEPT 22 COULD PROBABLY BE ARRANGED. INTOURIST PACKAGE INCLUDES HOTEL FOR EVENING SEPT 22.

6. RE PAYMENT -- PLOTNIKOV ADVISED STRONGLY AGAINST ATTEMPTING PAYMENT TO INTOURIST BY EMBASSY IN MOSCOW. TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS ARE COMPLETELY IN HANDS OF INTOURIST, AND INTOURIST HAD INFORMED GOSGRAZHDANSTROY THAT STUDY TOUR PARTICIPANTS SHOULD FOLLOW ITS SET PROCEDURES (I.E., PAYMENT TO INTOURIST VIA TRAVEL AGENCY OR ORGANIZATION IN PARTICIPANTS' OWN COUNTRIES). PLOTNIKOV STATED THAT IT WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT FOR HIM TO ARRANGE PAYMENT IN MOSCOW, AND THAT SUCH UNUSUAL PROCEDURE MIGHT CONFUSE TRAVEL RESERVATIONS FOR U.S. PARTICIPANTS. PLOTNIKOV THEREFORE ASKED THAT HUD PARTICIPANTS ARRANGE PAYMENT IN U.S. EMBASSY AUG 20 CONTACTED NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION, CENTRAL INTOURIST, AND WAS INFORMED FIRMLY THAT PAYMENT SHOULD BE MADE IN U.S. FOR THESE REASONS, EMBASSY SUGGESTS HUD PAY INTOURIST IN U.S. PLOTNIKOV NOTED THAT HE HAD OUTLINED INTOURIST PROCEDURES IN HIS TELEGRAM TO RASSIAS OF AUG 12.

7. RE STUDY TOUR VOUCHER NUMBER -- IF INTOURIST, WASHINGTON, D.C. HAS NOT YET RECEIVED STUDY TOUR VOUCHER NUMBER, SUGGEST HUD HAVE INTOURIST SEND TELEGRAM TO MOSCOW TO OBTAIN. CENTRAL INTOURIST, MOSCOW, ADVISES THAT THIS IS STANDARD PROCEDURE.

8. RE SINGLE ADJOINING ROOMS -- NOVIKOV ADVISED THAT ARRANGEMENTS FOR SINGLE ROOM, RATHER THAN DOUBLE ROOM ACCOMMODATIONS CAN BEST BE HANDLED UPON ARRIVAL MOSCOW. HE ADVISES HUD TO PAY INTOURIST THE 470 RUBLES PER PERSON FOR DOUBLE

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ROOM ACCOMMODATION. NOVIKOV WILL INFORM INTOURIST OF REQUEST FOR SINGLE ADJOINING ROOMS, AND WILL INFORM RASSIAS, UPON ARRIVAL MOSCOW, OF AVAILABILITY SUCH ACCOMMODATIONS AND OF ADDITIONAL FEE INVOLVED. INTOURIST WILL REQUEST PAYMENT UPON ARRIVAL MOSCOW. RASSIAS MIGHT BE WELL ADVISED, THEREFORE, TO CARRY EXTRA SUM IN TRAVELLER'S CHECKS TO COVER ADDITIONAL CHARGE FOR SINGLE ROOMS. (SATURDAY ARRIVAL, WITH SATURDAY NIGHT DEPARTURE FOR LENINGRAD, WOULD SEEM TO

PRECLUDE TIMELY DISBURSAL OF FUNDS BY EMBASSY AGAINST FISCAL DATA.)

9. RE CALL ON AMBASSADOR -- UNFORTUNATELY, AMBASSADOR PROBABLY WILL BE AWAY FOR POST DURING PERIOD OF STUDY TOUR. IN HIS ABSENCE, CHARGE WILL BE PLEASED TO MEET WITH UNDER SECRETARY RHINELANDER.

10. FYI -- PLOTNIKOV HAS INVITED PARTICPATION OF EMBASSY SCIENCE OFFICER IN MOSCOW PORTION OF STUDY TOUR AND PARTICIPATION OF CONGEN OFFICER IN LENINGRAD PORTION. INVITATION HAS BEEN ACCEPTED. END FYI.
STOESSEL

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